

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 04496 141505Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-07 PA-02 USIA-15

DLOS-09 AID-05 /066 W

-----141532Z 063728 /45

R 141025Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8543

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

UNCLAS ACCRA 4496

CASABLANCA FOR RFA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, EFIS, GH

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL FISHING TRADE MISSION

REF: ACCRA 4168

1. COMMERCIAL FISHING TRADE MISSION ARRIVED ACCRA AS SCHEDULED LATE AFTERNOON JUNE 8. OFFICIAL PROGRAM BEGAN JUNE 9 WITH CALL ON AMBASSADOR SMITH AND BRIEFING ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION AND AID PROGRAM, BY EMBASSY AND USAID OFFICERS. MISSION THEN WENT TO FISHERIES DEPARTMENT RESEARCH UNIT, HARBOR INSTALLATIONS AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED BOAT YARD. EVENING JUNE 9 AMBASSADOR HOSTED RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE FOR MISSION. GUEST LIST OF 90 INCLUDED GHANAIAAN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE OFFICIALS, PRESS AND EMBASSY OFFICERS.

2. JUNE 10 GROUP RETURNED TO TEMA FOR MEETING WITH HEAD OF STATE FISHING CORPORATION (SFC), THEN TOURED SFC'S COLD STORES, DRY DOCKS, SHIP AND WORKSHOPS. AFTER
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TYPICAL GHANAIAAN LUNCH HOSTED BY STATE FISHING CORPORATION. GROUP MET WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MANKOADZE FISHERIES, LARGEST PRIVATE FISHING COMPANY, AND VISITED INSTALLATIONS. LATE AFTERNOON MISSION MEMBERS MET WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF OCEAN FISHERIES, ONE OF MAIN PRIVATE FIRMS IN INDUSTRY.

3. REMAINDER OF TIME IN ACCRA WAS FREE FOR CONTACTS WITH

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. MOST MISSION MEMBERS REPORTED SOME SUCH INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH INTERESTED GHANAIS OVER THE WEEKEND. US BUSINESSMEN PLEASED WITH WARM HOSPITALITY AND IMPRESSED BY ENTHUSIASM, INTEREST, AND EXPERIENCE OF GHANAIS. MISSION MEMBERS NOTED MAIN OBSTACLE TO INCREASED U.S. PENETRATION IN FISHERIES MARKET IS FINANCING TERMS OFFERED BY COMPETITORS, SUCH AS NORWAY, JAPAN, THE NETHERLANDS AND ITALY.

4. JUNE 11 DAILY GRAPHIC GAVE PROMINENT BACK PAGE COVERAGE TO MISSION DIRECTOR O'CONNOR STATEMENT. BEFORE DEPARTURE MONING JUNE 13, MISSION DIRECTOR AGAIN INTERVIEWED BY PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN. AIRPOUCHING PHOTOGRAPHS AND PRESS CLIPS TO USDOC SOONEST. SMITH

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Message Attributes

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